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***Exempla Codicum Graecorum, litteris minusculis scriptorum annorumque notis instructorum.* Volumen prius: Codices Mosquenses, ediderunt Gregorius Cereteli et Sergius Sobolevski. Mosquae, Sumptibus Instituti Archaeologici Mosquensis MDCCCCXI. (Leipzig : Otto Harrassowitz.) Pp. xv + 43 plates in portfolio 17" × 21". Price M. 40. Volumen alterum: Codices Petropolitani. Mosquae, Sumptibus Ministerii Eruditionis Populi MDCCCCXIII. Pp. xix + 62 plates (some double sheets). Price M. 50.**

W. K. Lowther Clarke

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IN issuing this sumptuous series of photographic reproductions of specimen pages from manuscripts preserved in Russian libraries, the editors, so it appears from the preface to the first volume, have been actuated by a double motive. In the first place they wished to help the student by providing accurately dated specimens to illustrate the development of Greek minuscule handwriting, and secondly to draw the attention of scholars to the neglected manuscript treasures of St. Petersburg and Moscow. In the case of a poor student the price is likely to prevent the fulfilment of the first purpose, especially when excellent collections like Cavaliere and Lietzmann's *Specimina Codicum Graecorum* can be purchased for a few shillings. However, the cheaper books cannot challenge comparison with a series like the present, which provides a complete history of minuscule writing from the ninth to the fourteenth century, in a number of full-sized photographs of excellent workmanship, each on its separate sheet. In every instance the date is known accurately.

Two classes of scholars will take an interest in the Greek manuscripts of Russia, palaeographers and editors of texts. The former will study with eagerness the various types of handwriting, for the most part beautifully clear, and not infrequently embellished with miniatures. The latter will be more interested to know what authors are represented in the libraries of the two great Russian cities.

The manuscripts in the Moscow volume are as follows: St. Basil and St. Chrysostom five each, St. John Climacus four, Gregory Nazianzen and Evangelia three each, Palladius and the Gospels two each, while the remainder is made up by Lives of the Saints and miscellaneous Service and other church books. The composition of the St. Petersburg volume is very similar, but it contains more biblical manuscripts. It appears, then, that these documents fall into three classes: (i.) Biblical, (ii.) texts of the Greek Fathers from Basil downwards, and (iii.) Greek church books. With a few exceptions the minuscules contribute little to the textual criticism of the New Testament. However, the contents of many of them are still unknown and interesting discoveries may await the explorer. Few of the Fathers of the fourth and following centuries have been critically edited as yet; those who undertake the task will clearly have to visit Russia in the course of their labours, or else arrange for accurate collations by Russian scholars. Eastern church books are almost beyond the horizon of Western scholars, and the task of editing them will naturally fall to the lot of Russian *savants*.

In the preface to the second volume the editors announce their intention of issuing a third volume, to be devoted to minuscules, drawn from both cities, of the fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries. We congratulate the editors on the successful accomplishment of the first part of their task, and the Russian Government on the manner in which it has shown itself a benefactor of learning.

W. K. LOWTHER CLARKE.

Cavendish, Suffolk.

Some Leisure Hours of a Long Life. By H. MONTAGUE BUTLER, D.D., Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. Cambridge: Bowes and Bowes.

ALL lovers of good scholarship will welcome the appearance of the Master of Trinity's Latin and Greek verses in a